

years, in material received from some of our local collectors. Of course it saves "busy" men much labor but it produces a very unsatisfactory grade of specimens. They get dried without even being examined again (while green and fresh) and, of course, there is no opportunity (if desire) to straighten leaves, draw flowers or fruit into view, or any of the other desirable "fixing" which results in good specimens. They become invariably badly wrinkled (often with leaves crumpled across the stems) and so brittle that the first handling starts their disintegration, a process greatly accelerated by mounting and surely continuing to the end of their existence. Foliage nice and *green* BUT only fragments remaining!

It is evident that we must remember the old saying, that "haste makes waste".—M. L. FERNALD.

BINGHAM'S FLORA OF OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN.—This flora may stand as a rather successful example of what is sometimes called humanized science—non-technical and pleasantly written exposition with a solid core of observation and knowledge. It is an account of the vascular vegetation of a county in southern Michigan from an ecological point of view. It accomplishes the somewhat unusual feat of defining intelligibly numerous plant associations without the use of a single Latin name. Details—such as species of *Carex* and *Juncus*—are filled in by a list of all species known or reported to occur in the county, with the associations in which each is found. In this list, naturally, Latin names are used—mostly those from the seventh edition of Gray's Manual, with occasional interpolation of the results of later studies.

Some items in the list seem to need verification. I know of no evidence that "*Aspidium spinulosum* var. *dilatatum* forma *anadenium*", for instance, occurs in Michigan except in the extreme north (old reports of this cannot be relied upon); and *Vaccinium arboreum* appears to be an unorthodox extension of range from the Mississippi Embayment. Nevertheless, the list shows plain evidence of care in preparation and (in spite of some misprints) attention to technical detail; and it is backed by specimens at the Cranbrook Institute.

The Flora is well printed and well illustrated; it will have real usefulness for anyone interested in the flora of Michigan.¹—C. A. WEATHERBY.

¹ BINGHAM, MARJORIE T. The Flora of Oakland County, Michigan: a study in Physiographic Plant Ecology. Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bulletin no. 22. May, 1945. 155 pp., 30 ill., maps. \$1.00 at the Institute, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

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